



# Title I School Improvement Grants

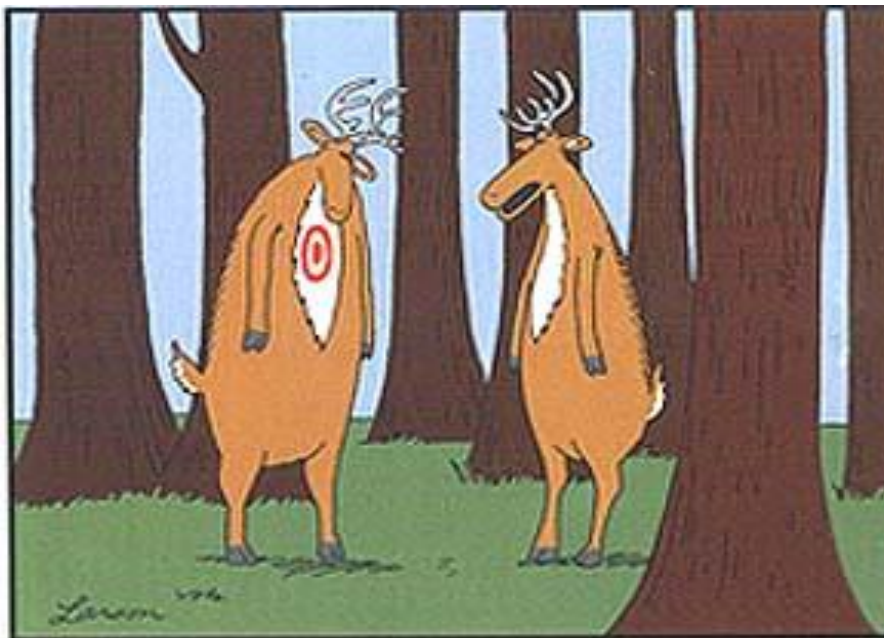
**PRESENTED BY:**

**Jim Reese, Chief, Bureau of Teaching & Learning Services**  
**Paul Cahill, Administrative Consultant, Bureau of Teaching & Learning Services**

**April 21, 2010**

# Agenda

- Timeline
- Notice of Intent To Apply
- Waiver - Principal Replacement Requirement
- SF 2033- Memorandum Of Understanding
- Intervention Models
  - Charter Application
- Funding Priorities and Levels
- Contents of SIG Application
- Sustainability
- Narrative
- FAQs
- Questions



"Bummer of a birthmark, Hal."

# Timeline



SIG Applications are due:

**MAY 21, 2010**

Award Notifications will be sent:

**JUNE 4, 2010**

# Notice of Intent to Apply

- The criteria at the beginning of the application calls for email notification by **April 28, 2010** of an intent to file a SIG application. This information will assist the IDE in grant reading scheduling and possible awards.
- [paul.cahill@iowa.gov](mailto:paul.cahill@iowa.gov)

# Principal Replacement

- Iowa filed a waiver request with the USED of the federal requirement to replace the principal who had more than two years experience in a PLAS school that wanted to apply for either the transformation or turnaround intervention.
- The waiver denial was received on March 29<sup>th</sup>.
- Letter states, “..., the last two years are the 2007-2008 and 2008-2009 school years.

Therefore, it is now our understanding that a principal hired for the 2007-2008 school year may be retained if he/she began transformational or turnaround efforts at the PLAS school.

# SF 2033 - MOU

- SF 2033 requires that districts with Tier I and II schools meet with their union representatives and try to negotiate an agreement on a federal intervention model and if no agreement is reached through the negotiation process, then mediation is the next step.
- Do not call the PERB board. This is not technically a labor issue.
- If the district applies on behalf of their Tier I and/or II schools a MOU needs to be filed with the SIG application at the time it is submitted.
- Tier I schools not applying for SIG funds must still submit evidence that they “lacked the capacity” to implement a federal intervention model.

# Intervention Models

- MOU must indicate which intervention model was selected.
- The four models are:
  - Turnaround
  - Transformation
  - Closure
  - Restart
- The Restart or Charter school intervention is subject to Iowa Code which requires that an Iowa Charter School Application be filed with the Iowa Department of Education(IDE).
- The following steps would need to be completed:
  - SIG application is submitted for approval
  - (50 % approval received from parents and teachers)
  - Local school board approval of Iowa Charter School Application
  - Iowa Charter School Application is filed with the IDE



# Funding Priority and Levels

- Tier I schools receive the highest priority. If any of the six eligible Tier I schools do not apply or receive funding IDE must carryover 25% of the SIG funding to the following year.
- Schools will be funded by application score ranking.
- Tier I and II schools choosing the closure model will be last funded at the funding range minimum for one year.

- Application scoring ties will be broken using the following priority factors:

- School enrollment

- The # of years identified as a SINA and # of subject areas

- Rank order in PLAS list

- Evidence of coordination of resources and supports from AEAs

- Funding for PLAS schools covers a three year period with allocations that can range from no less than \$50,000 and no more than \$2,000,000 annually.

# Contents of Application

1. Applications must provide relevant, quality data  
Assessment and provider selection
2. Select one of the approved intervention models
3. Applications must include all components and essential activities of the implementation plan including the goals, activities, timelines, and indicators of progress. (Chart in Appendix of SIG application that list required and permissible activities) Don't assume just addressing required activities will be sufficient.

<http://www2.ed.gov/programs/sif/faq.html>

# Sustainability



- Plan and budget must demonstrate that the intervention can be sustained after the three year funding has ceased.

# Narrative



No page limitations on the narrative sections of the application, however narratives should be explicit and to the point. Narratives should provide clarity. The action plan should reflect a more general overview as opposed to day to day activities.

# FAQs

- Q1. If our high school is not chosen to receive SIG funding, I would like to have a statement put in our MOU “ that the district will not proceed with the intervention selected if funding is not received.” Is that acceptable ? **Yes**
- Q2. We can document that many of the required activities in the Transformational Intervention were begun during our current principal’s tenure, which began in the 2007-2008 school year. Can he be retained at the building? **Yes**
- Q3. We had reached tentative agreement with our local union on an intervention model, but the ISEA representative requested that it not be signed, do we need to proceed to mediation ? **Yes**

Q.4 Can SIG funds be used for PLAS building principal recruitment or stipend ? **Yes**

Q.5 Will the list of Persistently Low Achieving Schools be recalculated each year? **Yes** What must schools accomplish in order to be removed from the PLAS list ?  
**Raise reading and mathematics achievement scores**

Q6. What about Tier III schools do they need to be included in the SIG application? **No** Do they need to implement one of the four interventions? **No. Also funding in the Fall**

# Questions

